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CLAIMS

5 What is claimed is:

1. A battery pack apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of battery packs each having a plurality of rechargeable batteries arranged in parallel, with a cooling medium passage interposed therebetween;

10 a plurality of cooling medium feeding devices provided, one for each of the battery packs for feeding a cooling medium through the cooling medium passage in the battery pack;

a temperature detector for detecting temperatures of the rechargeable batteries in the respective battery packs; and

15 a controller for controlling the cooling medium feeding devices based on detected temperatures, wherein

the controller controls the cooling medium feeding devices such that one of maximum ~~or~~ and minimum temperatures detected for the respective battery packs substantially match

20 ~~with each other.~~

2. The A-battery pack apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

~~comprising:~~

~~a plurality of battery packs each having a plurality of rechargeable batteries arranged in parallel, with a cooling~~

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~~medium passage interposed therebetween,~~

~~— a plurality of cooling medium feeding devices provided,
one for each of the battery packs for feeding a cooling medium
through the cooling medium passage in the battery pack,~~

5 ~~— a temperature detector for detecting temperatures of the
rechargeable batteries in each of the battery packs, and
— a controller for controlling the cooling medium feeding
devices based on detected temperatures, wherein~~

flow characteristics of the cooling medium in the cooling
10 medium feeding devices for the respective battery packs are
set such that a temperature distribution range of each battery
pack is contained in a largest temperature distribution range
of any of the battery packs, ~~when one of the battery packs
exhibits a largest temperature distribution range, temperature~~
15 ~~distribution ranges of the other battery packs are contained
in the largest temperature distribution range.~~

3. The battery pack apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein

20 flow resistances of passages for feeding and discharging
the cooling medium in the cooling medium feeding devices are
set such that flow rates of the cooling medium in each of the
cooling medium passages in the respective battery packs are
substantially ~~the same as~~ match each other.